

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-02 ACDA-05

NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00 SAJ-01

H-02 NSC-05 SS-15 OMB-01 AID-05 /079 W

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R 291500Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8995

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL IZMIR

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

USMISSION NATO

USUN NEW YORK 1896

EUCOM

CINCUSAFE

USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES

SECDEF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 3378

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, TU, CY, GR

SUBJ: NATO SECRETARY GENERAL LUNS' VISIT TO ANKARA

REF: ANKARA 3343

1. SUMMARY: NATO SECRETARY GENERAL LUNS, FOLLOWING ATTENDANCE AT BILDENBERG CONFERENCE NEAR IZMIR, VISITED ANKARA APRIL 28-29 AT INVITATION OF TURKISH GOVERNMENT (GOT). HE MET WITH KEY MEMBERS OF NEW GOVERNMENT, PRESIDENT AND CHIEF OF TURKISH GENERAL STAFF (TGS). GOT TERMED MEETINGS USEFUL, AND LUNS INDICATED TO AMBASSADOR HIS SATISFACTION WITH TALKS. TURKISH PRESS GAVE EXTENSIVE, FAVORABLE COVERAGE TO VISIT. END SUMMARY.
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2. ACCORDING TO MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MFA) OFFICIAL, LUNS HAD SEPARATE 90-MINUTE MEETINGS WITH PRIME MINISTER DEMIREL, MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS CAGLAYANGIL, MINISTER OF DEFENSE MELEN, CHIEF OF GENERAL STAFF SANCAR, AND A TWO-HOUR "VERY PROFITABLE" MEETING WITH PRESIDENT KORUTURK. MFA OFFICIAL CHARACTERIZED LUNS' VISIT AS MOST USEFUL, COMMENTING THAT MEETINGS GAVE NEW GOVERNMENT OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT TO SECRETARY GENERAL ITS VIEWS ON CYPRUS AND U.S. ARMS EMBARGO. HE SAID THAT GENERAL SANCAR HAD DISCUSSED WITH LUNS TURKISH REQUIREMENTS FOR MILITARY SPARE PARTS AND EQUIPMENT.

3. AT AIRPORT PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE, LUNS TOLD AMBASSADOR THAT IN TALKS WITH TURKISH OFFICIALS HE HAD EMPHASIZED THAT TURKS MUST NOT REGARD GREECE OUT OF NATO SINCE GOG RETAINS CONTRACTUAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE ORGANIZATION. IN RESPONSE TO STRONG TURKISH PROTESTS THAT U.S. ARMS EMBARGO AGAINST A NATO ALLY WAS AN UNPRECEDENTED STEP, LUNS SAID HE HAD POINTED OUT THAT U.S. HAD IMPOSED AN ARMS EMBARGO ON THE NETHERLANDS DURING INDONESIAN REVOLUTION AND, ALTHOUGH SITUATION BECAME VERY DIFFICULT, IT WAS WORKED OUT. LUNS PREDICTED TURKEY'S CURRENT PROBLEM WITH U.S. WOULD ALSO BE WORKED OUT. LUNS EXPRESSED PARTICULAR SATISFACTION OVER HIS TALK WITH PRESIDENT KORUTURK.

4. PRESS COVERAGE OF VISIT FOCUSED ON SECRETARY GENERAL'S STATEMENTS FOLLOWING HIS TALKS WITH GOT OFFICIALS. LUNS REPORTEDLY TOLD NEWSMEN THAT NATO MEMBERS WERE WORKING TO SEE HOW THEY COULD MEET TURKEY'S ARMS NEEDS RESULTING FROM U.S. EMBARGO. HEADLINES STRESSED HIS REPORTED STATEMENT THAT THE WEAKENING OF TURKEY MEANT THE WEAKENING OF NATO. LUNS ALSO REPEATED PUBLICLY HIS ALREADY EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THE U.S. CONGRESS WOULD LIFT THE EMBARGO.

5. SEVERAL STORIES ON LUNS' VISIT CITED "POLITICAL OBSERVERS" AS SAYING THE AIM OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S CONSULTATIONS IN ANKARA WAS TO DISSUADE TURKISH AUTHORITIES FROM ANY "IMPULSIVE" REACTION TO U.S. EMBARGO. AN MFA SPOKESMAN DENIED PUBLISHED REPORTS (REFTEL THAT TURKISH GOVERNMENT WOULD FAVOR LUNS' MEDIATION ON CYPRUS QUESTION. CONFIDENTIAL

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HE SAID : "IT IS OUT OF THE QUESTION FOR THE SECRETARY GENERAL TO MAKE MEDIATORY EFFORTS BY HIMSELF WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THIS MISSION WITHOUT THE JOINT REQUEST OF THE TWO COUNTRIES. TURKEY HAS MADE NO REQUEST ON THIS ISSUE."
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, VISITS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ANKARA03378
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750150-0494
From: ANKARA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975045/aaaaaehh.tel
Line Count: 112
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 ANKARA 3343
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 MAY 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <08 MAY 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NATO SECRETARY GENERAL LUNS' VISIT TO ANKARA
TAGS: PFOR, MASS, TU, CY, GR, (LUNS, JOSEPH M A H)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006